

America's continued commitment to the region.

A native of Woonsocket, Rhode Island, Colonel L'Heureux began his military career as an enlisted infantryman in the Rhode Island Army National Guard. He was commissioned in 1999 through the Providence College Army ROTC Program and subsequently assigned to a tank battalion in Germany. While in Germany, he deployed twice to Kosovo and again to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Since then, Colonel L'Heureux has served in multiple leadership and staff positions in combat units, including two additional deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan.

In 2015, Colonel L'Heureux was selected to serve as a Congressional Liaison in the United States Army House Liaison Division. As the primary liaison between Members of the House of Representatives and the Army, Colonel L'Heureux has provided insight and a deep understanding of Army policies, actions, operations, and requirements. His first-hand knowledge of the military, its culture, and traditions has been of tremendous benefit to Congressional offices. Chris was especially effective in his service to Members and staff as he escorted them on fact-finding and oversight delegations within the United States and to multiple countries in South America, Europe, and the Middle East. I have had the privilege to travel with Colonel L'Heureux on several occasions, including to Israel and to various military exercises in the United States, and I found him to be a thoughtful, intelligent, and dedicated Soldier in the best traditions of America's Armed Forces and the men and women called to serve from the great state of Rhode Island.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Colonel L'Heureux during his time as an Army Congressional Liaison Officer in the House of Representatives. On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of Lieutenant Colonel Christopher L'Heureux, his wife, Danielle, and their children, Ella and Jonathan. I wish them the very best as they continue their journey in the United States Army and thank them for dedicating their lives to the service of our Nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on April 4, 2017, I was unavoidably absent from the House chamber due to a family medical emergency. Due to these unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to vote on six legislative measures on the floor.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

1) Nay on Roll Call No. 211: H. Res. 241, On Order the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1304, the Self-Insurance Protection Act

2) Nay on Roll Call No. 212, H. Res. 241, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1304, the Self-Insurance Protection Act

3) Nay on Roll Call No. 213, H. Res. 240, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing

for consideration of H.R. 1343, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2017

4) Nay on Roll Call No. 214, H. Res. 240, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1343, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2017

5) Aye on Roll Call No. 215, H.R. 1343, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2017

6) Aye on Roll Call No. 216, H.R. 1343, On Passage, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2017

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ALLISON LOUISE ROSA

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Allison Louise Rosa for her service to my office and the people of California's 21st Congressional District.

Ms. Rosa was born May 14, 1994 in Hanford, California where she grew up on her family's dairy farm with her parents, Roland and Karen, her sister Emily, and her brother Jack. Growing up, Allison was very active in the dairy community; she was even crowned the First Alternate Dairy Princess for Kings County, California in 2012.

After graduating from Mt. Whitney High School in Visalia, California, Ms. Rosa went on to attend College of the Sequoias and Holy Names University. She graduated in 2016 from Fresno Pacific University with a degree in Communications. While in college, Allison was an avid tennis player and an NCAA division II athlete.

Allison joined my team as Scheduler in my Washington, D.C. office in May 2016. As Scheduler, she was instrumental to my team through managing my daily schedule and helping her coworkers with daily tasks to make the office run more smoothly. While on my team, Allison was greatly respected by her peers for her professionalism, dedication to her work, and sense of humor.

Outside of work, Allison enjoys spending time with her friends and talking to her family back in California. She is currently looking forward to moving back home to California to be closer to her family and the coast.

Ms. Rosa's time with my office will come to a close April 7, 2017 when she leaves to begin a new career at Epoch Estate Wines in Tempton, California. Knowing Ms. Rosa, her character, and her work ethic, I have no doubt that she will achieve many great things in her future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Allison Louise Rosa for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

#### JEANNETTE RANKIN AND 100 YEARS OF WOMEN IN CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor former Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, who deserves a special place in American History.

When I first came to the House of Representatives, I was one of just 24 women serving in Congress. Although a small cohort, this was made possible by Ms. Rankin, who was the first woman elected to Congress, 100 years ago.

Congresswoman Rankin was a part of the suffragist movement, even opening congressional debate on a Constitutional amendment to grant universal suffrage. She brought this same passion to her work in social welfare, advocating on behalf of women and children.

Today we have seen our ranks swell to 104 members of Congress. Research has shown that when women participate in government, it is more collaborative and more functional.

Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin was a trailblazer who shattered glass ceilings and proved to the American people that women's contributions are valuable and they are deserving of positions of power. For her tireless efforts, I worked to have a portrait commissioned in 2010, to fortify our institution's rich art history, paving a new way of democracy.

I know she would be proud to see the progress we have made, and prouder still of the indomitable spirit of American women, who continue to make their voices heard.

#### RECOGNIZING APRIL 3-7, 2017 AS NATIONAL RETIREMENT PLAN- NING WEEK

#### HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2017

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April 3-7 as National Retirement Planning Week.

Saving for retirement is one of the most important steps that Americans can take to build a better future for themselves and their families. Unfortunately, all too often, saving for retirement remains a distant goal that is put off in exchange for more immediate needs. The Government Accountability Office reports that 29 percent of Americans aged 55 and older have no retirement savings, and no traditional pension. With this in mind, it must be a national priority for us to communicate the importance of retirement planning. By encouraging more Americans to adequately prepare for their retirement years, we can significantly enhance retirement security in the United States.

Recognizing this week as National Retirement Planning Week is an important step to help raise awareness of this need, and I commend the members of the National Retirement Planning Coalition for their efforts to educate Americans about the importance of retirement planning. I wish them all the best as they continue this valued campaign.